





## Docks.

## PORT OF AMOY.

SHIP OWNERS, AGENTS, AND COM-  
MANDERS are informed that the DOCK  
COMPANY, established at the above  
Port affords every facility, at moderate charges,  
for

## REPAIRING AND SPARKING VESSELS.

CLEANING AND PAINTING IRON  
SHIPS AND STEAMERS.

## THIR LARGEST GRANITE DOCK.

Has 288 feet length on the blocks, and at  
average spring tide can receive vessels of 16 to  
17 feet draught. It has a depth of 10 feet  
at low tide, and 12 feet at high tide. The  
dock is situated at the foot of the  
GARDNER GATE AND POWER CENTRAL  
STRAIT-PIER.

And an Engineer's workshop with Lathes  
and Tools, driven by steam, Iron and Brass  
Foundries, Boiler-makers shop, large Smithy,  
and Carpenters and Boat-builders shops.  
All supervised by resident Europeans.

Their two smaller GRANITE DOCKS can  
receive, at spring tides, vessels drawing 12 feet.

Spare Timber, and other Dock-work material  
kept in stock.

Quarries for Officers, and a DRY DOCK  
for STORES, of Vessels under repair.

At 2317 Amoy, December 1868.

## FOUR DOCK.

THE above granite floored DOCK, of the  
following dimensions: Length, 300  
feet, Breadth at Bottom, 40 feet, is capable of  
receiving Vessels drawing 13 to 16 feet, as  
the state of the Tides will allow. The Dock runs  
up to the Blocks and is situated at the foot of  
the Gardner Gate. The Dock is capable of  
receiving a large number of Vessels, and is  
supervised by resident Europeans.

With the 15-ton SCREW CUTTING  
MACHINE.

DECKING AND WORKING MACHINES.

A LARGE SMITHY, &c., &c., &c.

Large Godowns for the premises for  
STORAGE OF GOODS, &c., &c., &c.

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for the benefit of the society  
generally, and for the benefit of the  
society in particular, to the effect  
that during a fixed term of years, but if  
this particular inconvenience cannot be remedied,  
there is another that might very easily be  
brought under control. It is not unfrequently  
happens that not a soul is to be found during  
fixed time in important public offices—such  
for instance, as Banks. A stranger enters for  
the purpose of transacting some business, and  
after looking, carefully round, discovers no  
one. There are lodgers, pens, ink—all the  
indications that, but a little time ago, busi-  
ness was in full activity, but where are the  
familiar faces gone that are wont to be there  
on Exchanges, additions, transfers,  
“currents,” “deposits”? Not one is to be  
seen. The whole place is deserted—no, not  
quite. Handled up is a distant corner is de-  
scribed the figure of an office clerk, quietly fan-  
ning himself, and looking at the intruder with  
no expression in his face, as if the entry of  
any one at that time were a thing of no con-  
sequence. A sharp word or two rouses him from  
his lethargy. Can I see Mr. A.P.? No, got.  
Mr. B.? No, got. “Well, Mr. C.?” No, got.  
But by dint of a little further interroga-  
tion, interspersed with sundry forcible  
epithets, useful in practical life, though dis-  
carded in polite society, the interesting con-  
versation is at last induced to add: “All right,  
got.” Having ascertained that, he utters  
some words for his next full impression with  
the idea that the matter is quite at an end.  
If the visitor happens to be on familiar  
terms, he makes the best of the somewhat  
peculiar reception, and sends up word that  
notwithstanding the exigencies of “tea”  
forenoon, he wishes to speak to someone  
about a matter of business. If he is a  
stranger, the probability is that he will not  
have the courage to face the surprise with  
which the office clerk will evidently regard  
any request to disturb his “massals” at  
sacred an hour, and he goes away, and with  
him—perhaps goes a deposit account—for  
ever.

Now making every allowance for the im-  
portance of the social and genial feelings  
which the assembly of “All men” in the  
middle of the day must produce, it seems to  
us that, pending the passage of the Ordinance  
as to fixed times above suggested, it would  
not be more than the exigencies of business  
demand, if at all events one gentleman re-  
mained in the office to attend to anything of  
importance that might arise, and that more  
than once happened that Chinamen have  
presented cheques during the secret  
interval, have returned stating that they  
could not get any money, to the little  
discomfiture of the drawers of the cheques, and  
other inconveniences which, while it is  
by no means impossible that other in-  
conveniences as serious, if not more so, have  
frequently happened. Of course there is no  
direct evidence, as at the time of the occur-  
rence there has been no one in the  
office but the story could be named. This,  
it may be fairly said, is scarcely a desir-  
able state of things in any office, but more  
especially in those of public character, and  
if it absolutely impossible for any of the  
Europeans to stay down in the office, it would  
at least be desirable to instruct the clerk  
not to be surprised at anything, but to let  
his masters know without delay should any  
one come and wish to see him.

The meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong  
Hotel yesterday was attended by 320 persons,  
this day, in consequence of the fact that  
the meeting was held in the afternoon.

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